

UNITED STATES PATENT APPLICATION

for

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR EDITING AN IMAGE WHILE  
MAINTAINING CODESTREAM SIZE

Inventors:

Edward L. Schwartz

Michael J. Gormish

Martin Boliek

Gene K. Wu

prepared by:

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

12400 Wilshire Boulevard

Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026

(408) 720-8598

File No.: 74451.P127D4

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

"Express Mail" mailing label number: EL672748338US

Date of Deposit: March 6, 2001

I hereby certify that I am causing this paper or fee to be deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service on the date indicated above and that this paper or fee has been addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D. C. 20231

Mara E. Brown

(Typed or printed name of person mailing paper or fee)

Mara E. Brown

(Signature of person mailing paper or fee)

3/6/01

(Date signed)

## **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR EDITING AN IMAGE WHILE MAINTAINING CODESTREAM SIZE**

This is a divisional of application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed on February 15, 2001, entitled "A Memory Usage Scheme for Performing  
5 Wavelet Processing," and assigned to the corporate assignee of the present invention.

### **FIELD OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention relates to the field of compression and  
10 decompression; more particularly, the present invention relates to editing an image while maintaining codestream size.

### **BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

The new JPEG 2000 decoding standard (ITU-T Rec.T.800/ISO/IEC  
15 154441:2000 JPEG 2000 Image Coding System) provides a new coding scheme and codestream definition for images. Although the JPEG 2000 standard is a decoding standard, the JPEG 2000 specifies encoding and decoding by defining what a decoder must do. Under the JPEG 2000  
Standard, each image is divided into one or more rectangular tiles. If there  
20 is more than one tile, the tiling of the image creates tile-components that can be extracted or decoded independently of each other. Tile-components

comprise all of the samples of a given component in a tile. An image may have multiple components. Each of such components comprises a two-dimensional array of samples. For example, a color image might have red, green and blue components.

- 5           After tiling of an image, the tile-components may be decomposed into different decomposition levels using a wavelet transformation. These decomposition levels contain a number of subbands populated with coefficients that describe the horizontal and vertical spatial frequency characteristics of the original tile-components. The coefficients provide
- 10 frequency information about a local area, rather than across the entire image. That is, a small number of coefficients completely describe a single sample. A decomposition level is related to the next decomposition level by a spatial factor of two, such that each successive decomposition level of the subbands has approximately half the horizontal resolution and half the vertical
- 15 resolution of the previous decomposition level.

Although there are as many coefficients as there are samples, the information content tends to be concentrated in just a few coefficients. Through quantization, the information content of a large number of coefficients is further reduced. Additional processing by an entropy coder

reduces the number of bits required to represent these quantized coefficients, sometimes significantly compared to the original image.

The individual subbands of a tile-component are further divided into code-blocks. These code blocks can be grouped into partitions. These  
5 rectangular arrays of coefficients can be extracted independently. The individual bit-planes of the coefficients in a code-block are entropy coded with three coding passes. Each of these coding passes collects contextual information about the bit-plane compressed image data.

The bit stream compressed image data created from these coding  
10 passes is grouped in layers. Layers are arbitrary groupings of successive coding passes from code-blocks. Although there is great flexibility in layering, the premise is that each successive layer contributes to a higher quality image. Subband coefficients at each resolution level are partitioned into rectangular areas called precincts.

15 Packets are a fundamental unit of the compressed codestream. A packet contains compressed image data from one layer of a precinct of one resolution level of one tile-component. These packets are placed in a defined order in the codestream.

The codestream relating to a tile, organized in packets, are arranged in one, or more, tile-parts. A tile-part header, comprised of a series of markers and marker segments, or tags, contains information about the various mechanisms and coding styles that are needed to locate, extract, decode, and reconstruct every tile-component. At the beginning of the entire codestream is a main header, comprised of markers and marker segments, that offers similar information as well as information about the original image.

The codestream is optionally wrapped in a file format that allows applications to interpret the meaning of, and other information about, the image. The file format may contain data besides the codestream.

The decoding of a JPEG 2000 codestream is performed by reversing the order of the encoding steps. Figure 1 is a block diagram of the JPEG 2000 standard decoding scheme that operates on a compressed image data codestream. Referring to Figure 1, a bitstream initially is received by data ordering block 101 that regroups layers and subband coefficients.

Arithmetic coder 102 uses contextual information collected during encoding about the bit-plane compressed image data, and its internal state, to decode a compressed bit stream.

After arithmetic decoding, the coefficients undergo bit modeling in coefficient bit modeling block 103. Next, the codestream is quantized by quantization block 104, which may be quantizing based on a region of interest (ROI) as indicated by ROI block 105. After quantization, an inverse  
5 transform is applied to the remaining coefficients via transform block 106, followed by DC and optional component transform block 107. This results in generation of a reconstructed image.

The JPEG2000 standard leaves many choices to implementers.

## **SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

A method and apparatus for editing an image while maintaining codestream size is described. In one embodiment, the method comprises determining a portion of a codestream to edit, decoding the portion of the  
5 codestream, performing an edit to the decoded portion of the codestream, recompressing edited data into coded data, and generating a replacement portion for the portion of the codestream by making size of the replacement portion equal to size of the portion of the codestream by adding padding to the replacement tile if the replacement tile is smaller than the portion of the  
10 codestream or quantizing the replacement tile if the replacement tile is larger than the portion of the codestream.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

The present invention will be understood more fully from the detailed description given below and from the accompanying drawings of various embodiments of the invention, which, however, should not be taken  
5 to limit the invention to the specific embodiments, but are for explanation and understanding only.

**Figure 1** is a block diagram of the JPEG 2000 standard decoding scheme.

10

**Figure 2** illustrates one embodiment of an organization for an image in memory.

**Figures 3A-F** illustrate a transform memory organization for various  
15 levels depicting conceptually how coefficients may be stored for the forward (Figures A-C) and inverse (Figures 3D-F) transforms.

**Figures 4A and B** illustrate embodiments of a single memory where  
the input image data and the various decomposition levels of the image data  
20 can be stored during forward and inverse transforms, respectively.



**Figure 5** illustrates one embodiment of the process of handling the input data.

**Figure 6A** illustrates a system having a progression order conversion  
5 parser.

**Figure 6B** illustrates a progression converter converting from a resolution progressive codestream to a quality progressive codestream.

**Figure 7A** shows multiple ways to convert a codestream from one  
10 progression order to another.

**Figure 7B** shows one embodiment of simplified conversion paths to  
convert a codestream from one progression order to another.

15

**Figure 8** illustrates one embodiment of a process for performing progression order conversion.

**Figure 9** illustrates a decoder that selects portions of a codestream based on sideband information.

**Figure 10** is a flow diagram of a process for using layers when  
5 decoding.

**Figure 11** is a flow diagram of one embodiment of an editing process.

**Figure 12** illustrates a bell-shaped curve of a range of values that are  
10 quantized to a particular value.

**Figure 13** is a flow diagram of one embodiment of a process to reduce flicker.

**Figure 14** illustrates one embodiment of an encoder (or portion  
15 thereof) that performs the quantization to reduce flicker.

**Figure 15A** illustrates a process for performing rate control.

**Figure 15B** illustrates an exemplary number of layers that may be subjected to first and second passes.

**Figure 16** illustrates one embodiment of the process for accessing the groupings of tile parts.

**Figure 17 and 18** illustrate quantizers for one component for a three level 5,3 transform.

**Figure 19** illustrates an example of HVS weighted quantization.

**Figure 20** is a block diagram of one embodiment of a computer system.

**Figure 21** illustrates an example progression with tile parts for a single server.

**Figure 22** illustrates an example of layering for a 5,3 irreversible transform.

**Figure 23** illustrates an example in which transform has 5 levels and the data is divided up into layers 0-3.

5        **Figure 24** illustrates one example of a situation in which flicker may be avoided in which values in first and third frames are used to set the value in the second frame.

10       **Figure 25** is a block diagram of a prior art decoding process that includes color management.

**Figure 26** illustrates one embodiment of a non-preferred camera encoder.

15       **Figure 27** illustrates one embodiment of a simpler camera encoder.

**Figure 28** is a flow diagram of one embodiment of a process for applying an inverse transform with clipping on partially transformed coefficients.

## **DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PRESENT INVENTION**

Improvements to compression and decompression schemes are described. It is a purpose of the techniques and implementations described herein to use choices in JPEG 2000 to make high speed, low cost, low  
5 memory and/or feature rich implementations.

In the following description, numerous details are set forth in order to provide a thorough explanation of the present invention. It will be apparent, however, to one skilled in the art, that the present invention may be practiced without these specific details. In other instances, well-known  
10 structures and devices are shown in block diagram form, rather than in detail, in order to avoid obscuring the present invention.

Some portions of the detailed descriptions which follow are presented in terms of algorithms and symbolic representations of operations on data bits within a computer memory. These algorithmic descriptions and  
15 representations are the means used by those skilled in the data processing arts to most effectively convey the substance of their work to others skilled in the art. An algorithm is here, and generally, conceived to be a self-consistent sequence of steps leading to a desired result. The steps are those requiring physical manipulations of physical quantities. Usually, though

not necessarily, these quantities take the form of electrical or magnetic signals capable of being stored, transferred, combined, compared, and otherwise manipulated. It has proven convenient at times, principally for reasons of common usage, to refer to these signals as bits, values, elements, symbols, characters, terms, numbers, or the like.

It should be borne in mind, however, that all of these and similar terms are to be associated with the appropriate physical quantities and are merely convenient labels applied to these quantities. Unless specifically stated otherwise as apparent from the following discussion, it is appreciated that throughout the description, discussions utilizing terms such as "processing" or "computing" or "calculating" or "determining" or "displaying" or the like, refer to the action and processes of a computer system, or similar electronic computing device, that manipulates and transforms data represented as physical (electronic) quantities within the computer system's registers and memories into other data similarly represented as physical quantities within the computer system memories or registers or other such information storage, transmission or display devices.

The present invention also relates to apparatus for performing the operations herein. This apparatus may be specially constructed for the

required purposes, or it may comprise a general purpose computer selectively activated or reconfigured by a computer program stored in the computer. Such a computer program may be stored in a computer readable storage medium, such as, but is not limited to, any type of disk including  
5 floppy disks, optical disks, CD-ROMs, and magnetic-optical disks, read-only memories (ROMs), random access memories (RAMs), EPROMs, EEPROMs, magnetic or optical cards, or any type of media suitable for storing electronic instructions, and each coupled to a computer system bus.

The algorithms and displays presented herein are not inherently  
10 related to any particular computer or other apparatus. Various general purpose systems may be used with programs in accordance with the teachings herein, or it may prove convenient to construct more specialized apparatus to perform the required method steps. The required structure for a variety of these systems will appear from the description below. In  
15 addition, the present invention is not described with reference to any particular programming language. It will be appreciated that a variety of programming languages may be used to implement the teachings of the invention as described herein.

A machine-readable medium includes any mechanism for storing or transmitting information in a form readable by a machine (e.g., a computer).

For example, a machine-readable medium includes read only memory (“ROM”); random access memory (“RAM”); magnetic disk storage media; optical storage media; flash memory devices; electrical, optical, acoustical or other form of propagated signals (e.g., carrier waves, infrared signals, digital signals, etc.); etc.

### Overview

- 10       The following descriptions relate to implementations or novel ways to take advantage of the flexibility of JPEG 2000 or other coding schemes with similar features.

### **Memory Usage for Low Memory and Fast Burst Access**

- 15       Figure 2 shows one embodiment of an organization for an image in memory 201. Referring to Figure 2, only the “tile height” raster lines, or a band of the image, are in memory 201, not the whole image. Thus, the amount of an image in memory 201 is equal to the image width multiplied



by the tile height. Inside the band of the image is at least one tile, such as tile 210.

The wavelet transform processing logic 202 includes memory access logic 202A to read data from and store data to memory 201 to enable

5 wavelet transform 202B to be applied to the data (image data or coefficients depending on the level of coefficient). Wavelet processing logic 202 may comprise hardware, software or a combination of both.

In one embodiment, access logic 202A accesses the tile with four parameters: a pointer or index to the start of the tile in memory, the width of

10 the tile, the height of the tile, and the line offset to get from the start of one line to another (the image width). Alternatively, access logic 202A accesses memory 201 using a pointer or index to the end of the tile instead of the width of the tile.

In one embodiment, in order to access for each line of a tile or a

15 portion of a line of an image to perform some function F, the following process may be used.

```

line = start
for y = 0 to tile_height - 1
  for x = 0 to tile_width - 1
    perform function F with line[x]
  line = line + line_offset

```

20

One of the functions  $F$  may include applying a wavelet transform on pairs of lines. Also another function  $F$  may be a DC level shift, multiple component transform.

Such a process would be performed by processing logic that may  
 5 comprise hardware (e.g., dedicated logic, circuitry, etc.), software (such as is run on a general purpose computer system or a dedicated machine), or a combination of both.

In one embodiment, coefficients from a subband are accessed using a similar scheme with a starting point, width, height and line offset. Because  
 10 rows of coefficients are stored together in memory, rows may be accessed efficiently when stored in cache, burst accessible memories or memories that are wider than one coefficient.

Figures 3A-C show a transform memory organization for various levels depicting conceptually how coefficients may be stored. All LH, HL  
 15 and HH coefficients (using the nomenclature of ITU-T Rec.T.800/ISO/IEC 15444:2000 JPEG 2000 Image Coding System) are coded. These coefficients are represented by dotted lines in Figures 3B and C. Input lines of input tile 301 and LL coefficients (shown as solid lines in Figures 3B and 3C in successive levels) only need to be stored temporarily while computing the

transform with the exception of the final transform level's LL coefficients which are coded. When a transform is used that does the horizontal and vertical transforms in one pass and uses line buffers, once a pair of input rows has been completely read (input lines or LL coefficients), the space  
 5 used by lines can be reused.

Figures 3A-C show input tile 301, level 1 (L1)(302) and level 2 (L2)(303) memory areas aligned with an offset to indicate how reuse might be accomplished in one embodiment. The addition of two rows, rows 312 and 313, to the memory space used to hold input tile 301, is needed to  
 10 generate the L1 coefficients when reusing the memory for input tile 301 for L1 coefficients. The addition of four rows, rows 341-342, to the memory space used to hold the L1 coefficients is needed to generate the L2 coefficients when reusing the memory storing the L1 coefficients for L2 coefficients. (Note that there are two rows between rows 341 and 342 that  
 15 are wasted space.) The additional lines are preferably behind the direction the wavelet transform is being applied to the information in the memory.

More specifically, a pair of input rows input tile 301 corresponds to one row of each of LL, LH, HL and HH coefficients at level 1, resulting from the application of a transform to two different lines and the results of

applying the wavelet transform being written into lines of the memory. For example, the results of applying a wavelet transform to input rows 310 and 311 are the coefficients in portions of rows 312 and 313 of L1 coefficients (302). For example, LL coefficients 321 of row 312 corresponds to the LL

5 coefficients (solid line) of level 1, HL coefficients 322 of row 312 corresponds to the HL coefficients of level 1, LH portion 323 of row 313 corresponds to the LH coefficients of level 1, and HH portion 324 corresponds to the HH coefficients of level 1. Note that the level 1 coefficients from the first two input lines are stored in two extra rows at the top of the memory with the

10 remaining level 1 coefficients being written into the locations storing the data of input tile 301 to reuse the memory. The width and height for each type of coefficient (e.g., LH, HL, HH) for each subband of level 1 coefficients is half that of input tile 301. The line offset from the LL row to the next LL row for level 1 (e.g., the distance from row 312 to row 314 in Figure 3B) is

15 twice the tile width (since each coefficient row is from an area corresponding to two lines).

Similarly, the results of applying the wavelet transform to two rows of LL coefficients at level 1 (solid lines) are the coefficients in two rows namely LL coefficients (331), LH coefficients (332), HL coefficients (333) and

HH coefficients (334) at level 2. The width and height for level 2 coefficients is a quarter that of input tile 301. The line offset for level 2 is four times the tile width (since each coefficient row is from an area corresponding to two level 1 LL rows or four input lines). Thus, four extra lines of memory are  
 5 needed to use the same memory that is storing the input tile to store the L2 coefficients. Note that if a third decomposition level was being performed, an additional 8 lines would be needed. Thus, in this example, a total of 14 extra lines are needed to enable reuse of the memory that stores an input time and has two levels of decomposition applied thereto. A general  
 10 formula may be used to determine the number of extra lines is as follows:

$$2^{(\text{maxlevel}+1)}-2.$$

To access subbands, such as the LL, LH, HL and HH subbands, only a starting pointer and the offset between rows/lines are necessary. The height and width are also needed to know when to stop when accessing a tile.

15 As the number of decomposition levels increases, some rows at the bottom of memory become unused. That is, the lines of memory below the L1 coefficients after the first decomposition level become unused, the lines of memory below the L2 coefficients after the second decomposition level become unused, etc. In one embodiment, this extra space may be reused.

Figures 3D-3F illustrate the corresponding inverse transform memory usage in which additional lines store the results of applying an inverse transform and those additional lines are in the memory behind the direction the inverse transform is being performed.

- 5           Figure 4A shows one embodiment of a single memory where the input and the various levels can be stored during application of a forward transform. Referring to Figure 4A, locations for the input tile, level 1 coefficients, level 2 coefficients, and level 3 coefficients is shown with the added 2, 4 and 8 lines respectively. Figure 4B shows a similar single
- 10   memory embodiment where the input coefficients of various levels of the transform can be stored along with the output during application of an inverse transform.

Table 1 shows the amount of memory required for various transform levels for a 256x256 tile for separate memories and reused memory.

Table 1

level	Separate memory (bytes)	reused memory (bytes)
1	$256 \times 256 = 65,536$	$2 \times 256 = 512$
2	$128 \times 128 = 16,384$	$4 \times 256 = 1,024$
3	$64 \times 64 = 4,096$	$8 \times 256 = 2,048$
4	$32 \times 32 = 1,024$	$16 \times 256 = 4,096$
5	$16 \times 16 = 256$	$32 \times 256 = 8,192$
6	$8 \times 8 = 64$	$64 \times 256 = 16,384$

For reused memory, the amount listed is the additional new memory used for that level. For this example, reusing memory for levels 1, 2 and 3 saves memory. Level 4 may use a separate memory.

The memory for levels 4, 5 and 6 could be placed in a single memory after level 3 has been generated or in a completely different and separate memory. The amount of memory necessary is  $38 \times 32$ , which is less than  $5 \times 256$ . Because there are two unused lines after generating the level 1 coefficients (i.e., the memory that stored the last two lines of input data), a small memory savings can be achieved by letting the levels 4, 5 and 6 reuse these two lines. This is particularly important because the number of additional lines for levels 4, 5, and 6 is 16, 32 and 64, and the extra space between the lines will be twice as far and half as wide as the level before.

In one embodiment, coefficients from levels 4, 5, and 6 are packed in a smaller memory structure, such as storage area 450 in Figure 4. Referring to

Figure 4, the level 4 coefficients are stored in an area having a height equal to the tile height divided by 8 ( $2^3$  where 3 corresponds to the number of levels) and a width equal to the tile width  $w$  divided by 8 ( $2^3$  where 3 corresponds to the number of levels previously stored elsewhere). An

5 additional two lines 451 are all that is needed to store level 5 coefficients in the same necessary storage area. Similarly, an additional four lines is all that is necessary to accommodate using this memory storage area for the level 6 coefficients. Note that no lines are skipped when storing the coefficients. In one embodiment in which a 256x256 tile is being processed, the extra 5 lines  
10 at the bottom of storage area 430, two lines 421 and approximately 4.75 lines 422 are used to accommodate storage area 450. As shown, the approximate by three lines 422 represent allocated memory or in addition to that necessary to store the input tile. In this manner, the storage area for the input tile is almost completely reused.

15 In one embodiment, to use a very little, or potentially minimum, memory, level 6 is stored separately from levels 4 and 5. However, this only saves 64 bytes of memory.

A memory a little smaller than 273x256 can hold all the transform coefficients for a 256x256 tile. This is less than 7% more than a true in-place



memory organization. Unlike an in-place memory organization, extra copies are avoided while simultaneously keeping the rows packed together for fast access.

Table 2 shows another example of using separate versus reused memory for 128x128 tiles. For this size, the first three transform levels can reuse memory in a 142x128 buffer.

Table 2

level	Separate memory (bytes)	reused memory (bytes)
1	128x128 = 16,384	2x128 = 256
2	64x64 = 4,096	4x128 = 512
3	32x32 = 1,024	8x128 = 1024

In one embodiment, a decision to use in-place memory or new memory is a function of tile height and transform level. Such a decision may be based on the following:

if tile height  $> 2^{(3 \cdot \text{level} - 2)}$ , then use in-place method

if tile height  $= 2^{(3 \cdot \text{level} - 2)}$ , then either may be used

if tile height  $< 2^{(3 \cdot \text{level} - 2)}$ , then use new memory

15

To illustrate the application of the decision, Table 3 below:

Table 3

level	$2^{(3*level-2)}$
1	2
2	16
3	128
4	1024
5	8192

In some applications, adapting the memory organization to the tile height is inconvenient. A single fixed memory organization can be used.

- 5 Tile sizes smaller than 128x128 typically result in bad compression performance, so would typically not be used. While tile sizes bigger than 1Kx1K can be used for very large images, this does not significantly improve compression and the large amount of memory required would typically be burdensome. Therefore, assuming a tile height between 128 and 1024
- 10 inclusive and using in-place memory for 3 levels of the transform is a good heuristic.

Decoding is similar in that the results of applying an inverse transform are written ahead of where the decoding processing logic is reading, with the only notable difference being that the start is from the

- 15 highest level to the lowest level, such as level 6 to level 1 in the example above. In such a case, the input tile ends up at the top of the memory

structure. The extra lines to accommodate the memory reuse are in decreasing order. For example, using the structure of Figure 4B, 8 lines would be necessary to create the L2 coefficients from the L3 coefficients, 4 extra lines would be necessary to create the L1 coefficients from the L2 coefficients and 2 extra lines would be necessary to create the input tile from the L1 coefficients.

In one embodiment, to handle input tile data, a color conversion may be performed on the data prior to encoding. Figure 5 illustrates one embodiment of the process of handling the input data. Referring to Figure 5, color input pixels are received in raster order. These color pixels may be in RGB, YCrCb, CMY, CMYK, grayscale, etc. The color input pixels may be stored as tiles in a memory, such as memory 501, by band (or other forms).

Pixels from storage 501 or received directly from the input undergo color conversion and/or level shifting, with the resulting outputs being stored in one coefficient buffers 502<sub>1</sub>-502<sub>N</sub>. That is, once the color conversion has been completed on each tile, it is stored in one of the coefficient buffers 502<sub>1</sub>-502<sub>N</sub>, and then the next tile can be processed. In one embodiment, there is one coefficient buffer for each component.

Coefficient buffers  $502_1$ - $502_N$  are used by the transform in the manner described above to perform the wavelet transform while reusing memory. Thus, coefficient buffers  $502_1$ - $502_N$  are both input and output to wavelet transform.

- 5        After the transform is applied to coefficient buffers  $502_1$ - $502_N$ , the context model 503 and entropy coder 505 can perform further compression processing on the already transformed data. The coded data is buffered in coded data memory 505.

- 10       While performing the further compression processing on one tile, the transform may be applied to another tile. Similarly, any or all the operations may be performed on multiple tiles at the same time.

### **Progression Order Conversion**

- 15       In the JPEG2000 standard, data in a compressed codestream can be stored in one of the five progression orders. The progression order can change at different points in the codestream. The order is defined by embedded "for layers" on layers, precincts, resolution, and components.

Five progression orders are described in the standard in Table A-16 of the JPEG 2000 standard. They are layer-resolution-component-position

progression (LRCP), resolution-layer-component-position progression (RLCP), resolution-position-component-layer progression (RPCL), position-component-resolution-layer progression (PCRL), component-position-resolution-layer progression (CPRL).

- 5           The order may be defined in the COD or POC markers of the JPEG 2000 standard. The Coding style default (COD) marker is defined by the JPEG 2000 standard and describes the coding style, number of decomposition levels, and layering that is the default used for compressing all components of an image (if in the main header) or a tile (if in a tile-part
- 10 header). The Progression order change (POC) marker describes the bounds and progression order for any progression order other than that specified in the COD marker segments in the codestream. The Packet Length Main Header (PLM) indicates a list of packet lengths in tile-parts for every tile part in order and the Packet Length, Tile-part header (PLT) indicates tile packet
- 15 lengths in a tile-part and indicates where the data is in the codestream.

The JPEG 2000 standard in section B.12 only specifies how packets of compress data are formed for a given progression order. It does not describe how data should be converted from one progression order to another progression order.

In one embodiment, a progression order converting parser converts a codestream to a desired progression order based on the user input without decoding the data and then encoding it again. Figure 6A illustrates a system having such a parser. Referring to Figure 6A, parser 601 receives requests

5 from a client for a particular progression order. The client may be viewing a web page and selects a particular link. In response to the request, parser 601 accesses server 602 to obtain the codestream associated with full image 603 from memory 604 and converts the codestream into a different progression order based on the request. The request indicates the progression order by

10 using an optional command (e.g., RL2L (Resolution-layer progression to Layer Progression)). The progression order that is described may be based on layer, resolution, component, precinct, or tile.

Figure 6B illustrates the progression converter converting from a layer progressive codestream (LRCP) to a resolution progressive (RLCP)

15 codestream. The progression orders map directly to each other.

Figure 7A shows multiple ways to convert a codestream from one progression order to another. Referring to Figure 7A, each of the five progressions (LRCP, RLCP, RPCL, CPRL, and PCRL) are shown with paths to each of the others, such that all progressions are shown. In one

embodiment, the parser causes all conversions to go through the layer progression first and then to a selected conversion. Figure 7B shows one embodiment of such simplified conversion paths in which the number of required mappings is reduced from 10 (as in Figure 7A) to 4. However, any

5 one of the five progression orders could be used as the one to which all are converted before arriving at the selected order. The conversion technique described herein simplifies source codes in that the number of lines of source code is much less than the multiple ways of conversion. This results in less debug time and fewer memory and run-time variables.

- 10 To perform the conversion, the order of the packets in the codestream must be reordered. The packets are labeled by their sequential order in the codestream. Markers may indicate the starting point of the data, the length of the data (or alternatively the endpoint of the data) and how the data should be handled. For example, the indication of how the data is to be
- 15 handled may indicate whether the data is to be deleted, whether the data is to be truncated, or some other operation to be performed on the data. Such handling information may also come from rate distortion information, such as may be provided in a PLT/PLM and/or the PPT/PPM marker sets of the

JPEG 2000 standard. In this manner, the codestream may be truncated without changing the packet header.

In one embodiment, a list, array, or other structure (such as reordering structure 601A) is built by indicating the portion of data in each  
5 packet. Using this structure, the packets may be reordered.

Figure 8 illustrates one embodiment of a process for performing progression order conversion. The process is performed by processing logic that may comprise hardware (e.g., dedicated logic, circuitry, etc.), software (such as is run by, for example, a general purpose computer or dedicated  
10 machine), or a combination of both.

Referring to Figure 8, the process begins by processing logic building a list from headers in the packets (processing block 801) and optionally marking list items "delete" for quantization (processing block 802). Next, processing logic reorders the list to map the original progression to a desired  
15 progression (including handling input and output with progressions specified with POC markers (bounds on the progression order) (processing block 803). Thereafter, processing logic outputs coded data based on reordered list (processing block 804).



Therefore, the combination of re-ordering and parsing allows specification of the desired ordering and resolution, quality, etc.

#### *A Progression Order Conversion Example*

- 5           The following is an example showing how packets are arranged in a codestream. The codestream was formed based on 2 components, 2 layers, 3 decomposition levels, and layer progression.

- 10           Table 4 shows the packet order, length and association index of packets in the example. The packet order column shows the sequential order of packets placed in a codestream. The length indicates the length of the packets. The association index shows the resolution, layer, component, and precinct of the packet.

- 15           For example, packet[0] is the first packet in the codestream after the first tile header. It has a length of 589 bytes. Association index  $RwLxCyPz$  indicates the packet belongs to resolution  $w$ , layer  $x$ , component  $y$  and precinct  $z$ .

Table 4

Packet order	Length	Association Index
packet[0]	length=589	R0L0C0P0
packet[1]	length=589	R0L0C1P0
packet[2]	length=924	R1L0C0P0
packet[3]	length=924	R1L0C1P0
packet[4]	length=1602	R2L0C0P0
packet[5]	length=1602	R2L0C1P0
packet[6]	length=733	R3L0C0P0
packet[7]	length=733	R3L0C0P0
packet[8]	length=535	R0L1C0P0
packet[9]	length=535	R0L1C1P0
packet[10]	length=1523	R1L1C0P0
packet[11]	length=1523	R1L1C1P0
packet[12]	length=5422	R2L1C0P0
packet[13]	length=5422	R2L1C1P0
packet[14]	length=16468	R3L1C0P0
packet[15]	length=16468	R3L1C1P0

In this codestream, packets are grouped based on the layer in which they reside. The first 8 packets belong to Layer 0. The following 8 packets

5 belong to Layer 1.

Using the conversion process described herein, the above codestream is converted to resolution layer progression. The following shows how the above packets are re-ordered.

After the layer progressive codestream is converted to resolution

10 progression, in the new codestream, packets are grouped based on

resolution. Such a grouping is shown in Table 5. The first 4 packets belong to resolution 0, the next 4 packets to resolution 1, and so on.

Table 5

Previous Packet order	Packet order	Length	Association Index
0	packet[0]	length=589	R0L0C0P0
1	packet[1]	length=589	R0L0C1P0
8	packet[2]	length=535	R0L1C0P0
9	packet[3]	length=535	R0L1C1P0
2	packet[4]	length=924	R1L0C0P0
3	packet[5]	length=924	R1L0C1P0
10	packet[6]	length=1523	R1L1C0P0
11	packet[7]	length=1523	R1L1C1P0
4	packet[8]	length=1602	R2L0C0P0
5	packet[9]	length=1602	R2L0C1P0
12	packet[10]	length=5422	R2L1C0P0
13	packet[11]	length=5422	R2L1C1P0
6	packet[12]	length=733	R3L0C0P0
7	packet[13]	length=733	R3L0C1P0
14	packet[14]	length=16468	R3L1C0P0
15	packet[15]	length=16468	R3L1C1P0

## 5 One Embodiment of a Conversion Algorithm

### Resolution to Layer Progression

```

n = 0;
10  for(l=0;l<layer;l++){
      for(r=0;r<resolution+1;r++){
        for(c=0;c<component;c++){
          new_packet[n] = old_packet[l*component + r*layer*component +
c];
          n++;

```

```

    }
  }
}

```

5

### Layer to Resolution Progression

```

n = 0;
for(r=0;r<resolution+1;r++){
10   for(l=0;l<layer;l++){
      for(c=0;c<component;c++){
        new_packet[n] = old_packet[r*component +
          l*(resolution+1)*component + c];
15         n++;
      }
    }
  }

```

20 where layer = the number of layers in a codestream,  
 resolution = the number of decomposition levels in a codestream, and  
 component = the number of components in a codestream

### Data Hiding (Sideband Information) in JPEG2000 Coding

Bit hiding allows sideband information to be transmitted without  
 25 increasing the file size. Sideband information that does increase file size but  
 does not break naive decoders might also be valuable (although the COM  
 marker defined by the JPEG 2000 standard might be used instead).

Some marker segments, packet headers and packets are padded out  
 to the nearest byte. Examples of the JPEG 2000 marker segments include  
 30 PPM, PPT, PLM, and PLT. In addition, some marker segments can be longer

than they need to be including QCD, QCC, and POC. In all of these cases, the padded data values are not defined.

Several proprietary coding schemes could use this semi-randomly located undefined data to provide a number of important types of

5 information including, but not limited to, decoding and filtering hints, ownership, segmentation hints, and so on. A hint might include an index to a particular enhancement scheme. For example, if it is known that an image is mostly text, a value may be sent that indicates that a first post-processing filter is to be used. On the other hand, if the area is mostly a graphic image,  
10 then a value may be sent that indicates that a second post-processing filter is to be used.

The following are places where bits may be hidden or sideband information may be stored in the codestream.

- 15 • arithmetic coder (AC) termination (without predictable termination)
  - end of packet header rounding to byte
  - after last packet, before next tile
  - tag tree construction by not always using minimum
  - packet header Lblock signalling
- 20 • LSB parity for codeblocks (refinement pass only, cleanup pass only, all)
- QCD, QCC extra subbands, POC.

For example, with respect to hiding data using AC termination, 0 to 7 bits are provided, at least, everytime the coder is terminated. However, this could be extended for a few bytes. These extra bits and bytes may be used for sending extra information.

- 5        With respect to each packet header, the end of a packet header is rounded to a byte boundary. Therefore, there may be 1 to 7 bits that may be available for sending extra information at times when rounding would have been necessary. Similarly, each packet is rounded to a byte boundary, thereby providing 1 to 7 bits (assuming that rounding would have been
- 10       necessary). Also the last packet in a tile-part can be extended a few bytes. These extra bytes may be used to send additional information.

- The length of the compressed data for a code-block can be given in the packet header with a non-minimum representation. The choice of representation (e.g., a non-minimum representation) could be used for
- 15       indicating other information.

      With respect to tag tree data hiding, packet headers of the JPEG 2000 standard use tag trees for coding first inclusion and zero bitplane information. When there are multiple codeblocks, tag trees are like a

quadtree of minimum values. For example, in the case of 16 codeblocks in a 4x4 arrangement in a packet, the arrangement may be as follows:

5           10  7 12 15  
          3 20 21  5  
         81 45  5  9  
         18  8 12 24

10       An example tag tree, which is minimal for the 4x4 arrangement above is as follows:

          3    0 2   7  4  7 10  
             5 2   0 17 16 0  
                 73 37 0  4  
15               10 0  7 19

in which "3" is added to every codeblock's value, and "0", "2", "5" and "2" are each added to the 4 corresponding codeblocks. Finally, there is one value per codeblock. That is, the minimal tag tree is created by taking the first 2x2 group in the 4x4 arrangement above and look at minimum value is out of the four values. In this case, for the 2x2 block

10  7  
  3 20

25   the minimum value is 3. This is then performed on the other 2x2 blocks.

Then these identified minimum values are evaluated again to determine their minimum, which would be "3" in the example. Then the minimum value is subtracted from the four minimum values to create the following

0 2  
5 2

Then, for the remaining numbers in the 4x4, the number 3 is subtracted from each value along with the value in the 2x2 that corresponds to the particular value in the 4x4 arrangement, thereby resulting in the tag tree above.

The first row adds up as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} 10 &= 3 + 0 + 7 \\ 7 &= 3 + 0 + 4 \\ 12 &= 3 + 2 + 7 \\ 15 &= 3 + 2 + 10 \end{aligned}$$

A variable length code may be used that efficiently represents small numbers.

An example of a tag tree that is not minimal is as follows:

2	1 3	7 4 7 10
6 3	0 17 16 0	
	73 37 0 4	
	10 0 7 19	

(Note that representing "3", "0", "2", "5" and "2" might use less bitstream data than "2", "1", "3", "6" and "3".)

Once a tag tree representation has been made, a determination can be made as to whether the representation is minimal or not based on whether there is a zero in the 2x2 block. Therefore, this information is hidden. For example, the 1 bit block represents the 1 in the 2x2 block above indicates it is



not part of a minimal tag tree, but can be used to convey some particular information to a decoder. Likewise if a 2 was the minimal value in the 2x2 block, such a fact may convey different information to a decoder.

The JPEG 2000 POC, QCD, and QCC markers can have redundant  
5 entries. It is as if the codestream were quantized and the markers were not rewritten. For example, the QCD and QCC markers have values for a number of subbands specified by the syntax of the marker. If there are fewer subbands actually coded in the bitstream, data may be hidden in the values used for the missing subbands. The redundant entries may be replaced and  
10 used for hidden or sideband information.

The hidden or sideband information may include post-processing hints (such as, for example, sharpen this tile with a specified filter or strength, or smooth, or perform optical character recognition (OCR) on this region, etc.), decoding hints, security (such as, for example, an encryption  
15 key for decoding the remainder of the image or another image, etc.) codestream identification (such as, for example, labeling POTUS as the originator of the file, etc.) and/or other information.

### Use of Layers When Encoding

Layers are part of the JPEG standard. In one embodiment, sideband information, possibly in a COM marker, is used by the decoder to allow selecting of layers during decoding. The sideband information may be used  
5 to select layers for postcompression quantization to meet rate/distortion targets for different viewing distances, different resolutions, different regions of interest, different frequency content for analysis (e.g., finding edges of text).

In one embodiment, the layers are predefined based on rate. For  
10 example, the first layer represents a 1-bit per pixel image, while the second layer represents a 2-bit per pixel image, etc. Therefore, the layers run from the lowest quality to the highest quality. Likewise, target rates can be met for lower resolutions as well.

The sideband information may be stored in a marker segment of the  
15 codestream. In one embodiment, the JPEG 2000 comment (COM) marker is used to provide information about the layers. Specifically, the COM marker may be used to indicate the number of bytes for each resolution and/or rate across the entire image or a relative number of bytes for each additional

layer. Table 6 indicates each layer and its resolution in the number of bytes across the tile in an image. Such a table may have distortion values instead.

Table 6

lev=0	layer=0	comp=0	bytes=529
lev=0	layer=0	comp=1	bytes=555
lev=0	layer=0	comp=2	bytes=493
lev=0	layer=1	comp=0	bytes=129
lev=0	layer=1	comp=1	bytes=130
lev=0	layer=1	comp=2	bytes=123
lev=0	layer=2	comp=0	bytes=7
lev=0	layer=2	comp=1	bytes=8
lev=0	layer=2	comp=2	bytes=12
lev=0	layer=3	comp=0	bytes=1
lev=0	layer=3	comp=1	bytes=1
lev=0	layer=3	comp=2	bytes=129
lev=1	layer=0	comp=0	bytes=705
lev=1	layer=0	comp=1	bytes=898
lev=1	layer=0	comp=2	bytes=712
lev=1	layer=1	comp=0	bytes=146
lev=1	layer=1	comp=1	bytes=114
lev=1	layer=1	comp=2	bytes=116
lev=1	layer=2	comp=0	bytes=224
lev=1	layer=2	comp=1	bytes=250
lev=1	layer=2	comp=2	bytes=263
lev=1	layer=3	comp=0	bytes=201
lev=1	layer=3	comp=1	bytes=212
lev=1	layer=3	comp=2	bytes=200
lev=2	layer=0	comp=0	bytes=889
lev=2	layer=0	comp=1	bytes=1332
lev=2	layer=0	comp=2	bytes=1048
lev=2	layer=1	comp=0	bytes=240
lev=2	layer=1	comp=1	bytes=329
lev=2	layer=1	comp=2	bytes=328
lev=2	layer=2	comp=0	bytes=599
lev=2	layer=2	comp=1	bytes=767

lev=2	layer=2	comp=2	bytes=725
lev=2	layer=3	comp=0	bytes=335
lev=2	layer=3	comp=1	bytes=396
lev=2	layer=3	comp=2	bytes=420
lev=3	layer=0	comp=0	bytes=1
lev=3	layer=0	comp=1	bytes=395
lev=3	layer=0	comp=2	bytes=402
lev=3	layer=1	comp=0	bytes=251
lev=3	layer=1	comp=1	bytes=450
lev=3	layer=1	comp=2	bytes=562
lev=3	layer=2	comp=0	bytes=525
lev=3	layer=2	comp=1	bytes=990
lev=3	layer=2	comp=2	bytes=1313
lev=3	layer=3	comp=0	bytes=1214
lev=3	layer=3	comp=1	bytes=1798
lev=3	layer=3	comp=2	bytes=2585

In another embodiment, the ordering could be by layer. Thus, the information above is consolidated for each level (not segregated by level or component), as shown below:

5

Ordering by layer=0 bytes=7959 bitrate=0.971558 PSNR=30.7785  
Ordering by layer=1 bytes=10877 bitrate=1.327759 PSNR=32.0779  
Ordering by layer=2 bytes=16560 bitrate=2.021484 PSNR=35.7321

10

Distortion by layers can be based on PSNR. For example,

layer=0 PSNR=30.7785  
layer=1 PSNR=32.0779  
layer=2 PSNR=35.7321

15

In an alternative embodiment, such information may be hidden in the codestream as described above. The information may be used to control rate distortion.

In another embodiment, the layers may be predefined for a particular viewing distance. In such a case, the data is divided into layers from the highest frequency, lowest resolution to the lowest frequency, highest resolution.

In one embodiment, the layer information indicates the summation of bits across the entire image for that layer and all previous layers (for example the 16,011 bits listed next to layer 1 indicates the total number of bits for layer 0 and layer 1). Alternatively, bytes, words, kilobytes, or other units of memory or rate could be used instead of bits. Table 7 shows this type of absolute rate information.

Table 8 shows relative rate information. Layer 0 has 4096 bits, layer 1 has 11,915 bits, etc.

Table 7

layer	Rate (bytes)
0	4,096
1	16,011
2	40,000
3	100,000
4	250,000
5	500,000
6	1,000,000
7	2,500,000
8	5,500,000

Table 8

layer	Rate (bytes)
0	4,096
1	11,915
2	23,989
3	60,000
4	150,000
5	250,000
6	500,000
7	1,500,000
8	3,000,000

- 5 For example, if only 750,000 bytes may be allowed in the decoded image, then all that can be decoded (as the 1,000,000 bytes tabulated with layer 6 includes the 500,000 bytes of layers 0-5) is through layer 5 and half of

importance layer 6. In some embodiments, no packets from layer 6 would be included. In other embodiments, some packets from layer 6 would be included and others would be replaced by zero packets so that the total amount of layer 6 data was approximately 250,000 bytes.

- 5           Figure 22 illustrates an example of layering for a 5,3 irreversible transform with three levels, MSE or similar. Referring to Figure 22, there are 45 layers shown. Each additional layer improves MSE in an order that gives good rate-distortion for MSE.

- Figure 23 illustrates another example in which transform has 5 levels  
10   and the data is divided up into layers 0-3. Layer 0 corresponds to the thumbnail version, layers 0-1 correspond to the monitor (or screen) resolution, layers 0-2 correspond to the print resolution, and layers 0-3 correspond to lossless.

- In an alternative embodiment, the layers may be predefined for some  
15   other distortion metric (e.g., MSE, weighted MSE, sharpness of text, etc.)

          The decoder uses the information regarding the layers from the codestream to select layers to generate an image. The decoder knowing what the desired viewing characteristics from the application or implementation (see Table 9 below), and using the information from the

codestream specifying the layers, can quantize the codestream in order to display an image at the correct viewing distance. Figure 9 illustrates such a decoder. Referring to Figure 9, decoder 901 receives a codestream and includes quantization logic 902 that examines the COM marker and uses information about the viewing distance it is at stored in storage 903 to generate quantized codestream 904 via, for example, selecting the proper layers. Quantized codestream 904 is decoded by decoding logic 905 (e.g., a JPEG 2000 decoder) after selecting layers to generate an image data 906. A naive decoder would simply ignore the data in the comment marker.

Figure 10 is a flow diagram of a process for using layers when decoding. The process is performed by processing logic that may comprise hardware (e.g., dedicated logic, circuitry, etc.), software (such as is run by, for example, a general purpose computer or a dedicated machine), or a combination of both.

Referring to Figure 10, the process begins by processing logic receiving a codestream of compressed logic data (processing block 1001). The image data is organized into multiple layers, each of which comprises coded data that adds visual value to the image (e.g., look sharper, better defined, better contrast, etc.). Next processing logic selects one or more



layers for quantization based on sideband information (processing block 1002). After selection, processing logic decompresses the non-quantized layers of the codestream (processing block 1003).

## 5 Editing of Tiles, Tile-parts, or Packets

Once a codestream is created, it may be desirable to edit parts of the image. That is, for example, after performing encoding to create the codestream, a set of tiles may be decoded. After decoding the set of times, editing may be performed, followed by encoding the set of tiles with the  
 10 edits to the same size as the encoded tiles were prior to their decoding. Examples of typical editing include sharpening of text and removing “red-eye.” The JPEG 2000 codestream can be edited in memory or in a disk file system without rewriting the entire codestream.

Figure 11 is a flow diagram of one embodiment of an editing process.

15 The process is performed by process logic that may comprise hardware (e.g., dedicated logic, circuitry, etc.), software (such as is run by, for example, a general purpose computer or a dedicated machine), or a combination of both.

Referring to Figure 11, processing logic initially determines the tiles, tile-parts, or packets that cover the area, resolution, components, and/or precincts to be edited and decodes them (processing block 1101). This determination may be made in response to a user selecting an area and/or working resolution. The determination may use editing information for a higher resolution to determine which parts or tiles cover the portion to be edited. Once decoding has been completed, processing logic performs the desired edits (processing block 1102).

After performing the desired edits, processing logic recompresses the data into coded data (processing block 1103) and creates a replacement tile, tile-part, or packet for the codestream (processing block 1104). In one embodiment, in creating the replacement tile, tile-part, or packet, processing logic pads out the data with bytes at the end of the codestream if the new data is smaller than the unedited version of the data to make the replacement tile, tile-part or packet the same size as the unedited version.

In an alternative embodiment, processing logic may use a marker, or tag, such as a COM marker segment of the appropriate length instead of the padding. The COM marker could be used to fill space or could contain information that the encoder wanted to include. It could contain

information such as, for example, sideband information described herein or a copyright license for an image or text or other file format information.

In one embodiment, in creating the replacement tile, tile-part, or packet, processing logic truncates the last packets for any or all components  
5 until the data fits in the codestream if the new data is larger than the unedited version of the data.

Editing of an image may be performed by changing coded data for tiles, tile-parts, or codeblocks. In one embodiment, editing is performed without changing file size by quantizing instead of expanding. In another  
10 embodiment, a predetermined amount of extra space is allocated per tile or per codeblock to allow for a predetermined amount of expansion. In still another embodiment, coded data may be put at end of files by manipulating tile headers and putting invalid tile data in COM markers.

Note that if there are subsequent tile-parts that depend on the data in  
15 the portion of the codestream that is being edited, these tile-parts may become useless in the codestream. An indication of this useless data may be noted to the decoder by one of several methods. These methods involve inserting or modifying information in the codestream to indicate the presence and/or location of the useless data. In one embodiment, the

application uses a status buffer to indicate that the data in tile-parts subsequent to an edited tile-part may be useless. The status buffer may be in workspace memory and describes dependencies between packets. If an earlier packet is altered, the subsequent packets cannot be decoded as is.

- 5 These subsequent packets must be edited accordingly or eliminated. In another embodiment, such an indication may be made by zeroing out the data section of those tile-parts and/or creating a PPT marker segment that denotes no data.

## 10 Optimal Encoder Quantization

During encoding, unquantized coefficients from some or all subbands may be divided by a value of  $Q$  to create the quantized coefficient values.

This value  $Q$  may have a wide range of values. Typical encoders quantize a number of the values in a single particular range of values is made equal to

- 15 one single coefficient value. In essence, all the coefficients in the particular range are quantized to the same value. This can be exemplified by Figure 12 which shows that the range of values is often in a bell shaped curve and that all of the values in the particular range, such as range  $R_1$  are sent to the decoder as one quantized value, such as  $R_1'$ , and the decoder will reconstruct

these values to a particular value. Assume a decoder reconstructs these values to a predetermined value (e.g., floor ( $\frac{1}{2}$  min +  $\frac{1}{2}$  max), or min +  $\frac{1}{2}$  Q, where Q is the quantization step size). For example, if the range of values is between 16 and 31, then the decoder may assume the value is 24. In one

5 embodiment, instead of using  $\frac{1}{2}$  as the value, another value is selected, such as floor ( $\frac{3}{8}$  min +  $\frac{5}{8}$  max), or min +  $\frac{3}{8}$ Q, where Q is the quantization step size. Therefore, if the range is from 16 to 31, then it is assumed that the decoder will reconstruct the value to 22, instead of 24.

In some cases, two spatially adjacent coefficients may be close to each

10 other numerically yet in separate quantization bins, such as coefficient values 1201 of range  $R_2$  and 1202 of range  $R_1$  in Figure 12. The results of the quantization may cause an artifact to occur. In one embodiment, for coefficients near a boundary between two quantization bins, the encoder selects a bin such as Range  $R_1$  into which a coefficient, such as coefficient

15 1201, will be quantized so that it is consistent with neighbors, such as coefficient 1202. This helps avoid artifacts. That is, this technique reduces distortion yet may increase rate, particularly when a coefficient is moved from a smaller bin to a higher bin.

### Flicker Reduction for Motion JPEG

At times, flicker occurs when applying wavelet compression to motion sequences. An example of such flicker may include the image getting brighter or darker in areas or the appearance of edges changing in successive frames as the motion sequence is played (mosquito noise around the edges). The flicker may be due to the application of different local quantization to successive frames of a motion sequence or to noise exacerbated by quantization that is viewed temporarily.

To reduce flicker, coefficients that are in the same position and close to the same value in successive frames are forced to the same value. That is, the coefficients values in successive frames are set to a predetermined value. This is essentially a form of quantization that is applied during encoding. Figure 13 is a flow diagram of one embodiment of a process to reduce flicker.

A test of whether to apply such quantization to a coefficient value in a subsequent frame is based on the quantization that was performed on the coefficient in the previous frame. Thus, the encoder is utilizing frame dependency to eliminate flicker while the decoder decodes data frame by frame independently.

In one embodiment, in order to reduce flicker in motion JPEG, coefficient values are modified (quantized) based on their relationship with each other with respect to a threshold. For example, if  $D_n$  and  $D_{n+1}$  are the corresponding coefficient (same spatial location and same subband) in two frames before quantization, if  $D'_n$  and  $D'_{n+1}$  represent these coefficients after quantization, if  $Q(\bullet)$  are scalar quantization, and if the value  $T$  is a threshold, then the following may be applied:

if ( $|Q(D_{n+1}) - (D'_n)| < T$ )  
 $D'_{n+1} = D'_n$   
 10 else  
 $D'_{n+1} = Q(D_{n+1})$

For example, the value  $T$  may be twice the quantization step size. Other values of  $T$  include, but are not limited to,  $\sqrt{2}Q$ ,  $1.5Q$ ,  $2\sqrt{2}Q$ .

15 One of the coefficient values may be modified to be either a predetermined closeness to another coefficient value. The closeness may be determined by some threshold. The threshold may be user set or adaptive based on some criteria. The threshold could be different based on the subband and, perhaps, on the persistence of the particular value (number of frames that this coefficient is close). In one embodiment, the coefficient value is set equal to the other coefficient value. In alternative embodiments,

20

the coefficient is set to be within the quantization bin size of the other coefficient value or twice the quantization bin size.

Figure 14 illustrates one embodiment of an encoder (or portion thereof) that performs the quantization described above. Referring to Figure 14, a quantizer 1400 receives coefficients 1410 for frames of a motion sequence from a wavelet transform (not shown). The coefficients are received by quantization logic 1401 which compares a threshold value stored in memory 1401 to coefficient values for the previous frame that are stored in memory 1403 to coefficients 1410 with a scalar quantizer Q applied from memory 1404.

Quantization logic 1401 may comprise comparison hardware (e.g., logic with gates, circuitry, etc.) or software to perform the comparison. This comparison hardware and software may implement a subtractor or subtraction operation. The results are a quantized codestream (assuming some values have been changed.)

This may be applied over two or more frames. Also the comparison is not limited to two consecutive frames. The comparison can be over 3, 4, 5, etc., frames, for example, to determine if a variance exists. Figure 24



illustrates one example in which values in a first and third frame are used to set the value in the second frame.

Note that the quantization can also be codestream quantization with a code block-based rule.

5

### **Rate Control, Quantization, and Layering**

In one embodiment, selective quantization of coefficients can be performed during encoding by setting a subset of the refinement bits to be the more probable symbol (MPS). This may be performed at a user selected  
10 bitplane. For examples, if there is text on a background image, with a goal of having sharp text images while minimizing coded data required for the background, the refinement bits that are set to MPS are those that do not effect text for the last bitplane, while using the actual value for bits that effect text.

15 Such a quantization scheme may be used to implement non-uniform quantization step sizes. For example, if one wanted to have a background with fewer bits, setting the refinement bits to the MPS could operate as a form of quantization. This quantization scheme causes some level of distortion but lowers the bit rate necessary to transfer the codestream.

Note that although this technique may be applied to bits generated during the refinement pass, the technique has application to other compression schemes (e.g., lists generated during subordinate passes, tail bits of CREW of Ricoh Silicon Valley, Menlo Park, California, MPEG IV texture mode, etc.).

In one embodiment, the same technique may be applied to other changes between frames. That is, in one embodiment, a change due to a rate distortion in one frame may be performed in a subsequent frame to avoid distortion effects.

#### 10 *Rate Control and Quantization*

In one embodiment, user specified quantization is provided. For a 3 level transform for one component, 7 quantization values are sufficient: level 1 HH, level 1 HL and LH, level 2 HH, level 2 HL and LH, level 3 HH, level 3 HL and LH, and level 3 LH.

15        If quantization values are bitplanes to truncate (which is equivalent to scalar quantization by powers of 2), 3-bit values (0...7) are sufficient for most applications. (For image components with depth 12-bits or more and 5 or more transform levels, perhaps higher quantizations might be useful.) Values 0...6 could be used to specify the number of bitplanes to truncate and

7 could be used to mean discard all bitplanes. The three bit values may be written to a controller that controls compression (or decompression) hardware (e.g., JPEG2000 compatible hardware) to perform the quantization.

- 5        For 3 component color quantization:
  - 21 values can be used with separate values for each component,
  - 14 values can be used, 7 for luminance and 7 for chrominance,
  - 17 values can be used for 4:1:1 subsampled data, 7 for luminance and 5 for each chrominance component,
- 10       • 12 values can be used for 4:1:1 subsampled data, 7 for luminance and 5 for chrominance,
- 19 values can be used for 4:2:2 subsampled data, 7 for luminance and 6 for each chrominance component, and
- 13 values can be used for 4:2:2 subsampled data, 7 for luminance and 6 for chrominance.
- 15

Since  $21 \times 3 = 63$  bits is less than 8 bytes, transferring or storing the quantization uses little resources. A central processing unit (CPU) might select one predetermined quantizer from a table and write it to a CPU or other controller controlling special purpose JPEG 2000 hardware (a chip) for

each frame of a motion JPEG 2000 video sequence. Alternatively, one implementation of JPEG 2000 might have a small memory that holds 8 or 16 different quantizers that could be selected for each frame.

Quantizers can also be used to assign bitplanes to layers. For example,  $Q_0$ ,  $Q_1$ , and  $Q_2$  may be quantizers that specify bitplanes of coding pass to quantize. Quantizer  $Q_0$  causes the most loss, while quantizer  $Q_2$  causes the least loss. Layer 1 is all the data quantized by  $Q_0$  but not quantized by  $Q_1$ . Layer 2 is all the data quantized by  $Q_1$  but not quantized by  $Q_2$ . Layer 3 is all the data quantized by  $Q_2$ .

10

### *Simple Quantization*

Figures 17 and 18 show example quantizers (label A...Q) for the 3-level 5/3 transform as the number of coefficient LSBs to truncate or not code. Truncating N bitplanes is equivalent to a scalar quantizer of  $2^N$ . The subband where the quantization changes with respect to the previous quantizer is highlighted with a dashed box. The quantizers D, K and Q all have the same relationship between the subbands. Other quantizers might be used that are better for MSE or for other distortion metrics.

The exemplary Verilog below converts a single quantization value

“q” into seven quantizers (number of LSBs to truncate). The variable  $q\_1\_HH$  is used for level 1 HH coefficients, the variable  $q\_1\_H$  is used for level 1 HL and LH coefficients, etc. Some consecutive values of  $q$  result in the same quantizer: 0 and 1; 2 and 3; 4 and 5;  $8i+6$  and  $8i+7$  for all integers  $i$

5 with  $i \geq 0$ .

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44  
45  
46  
47  
48  
49  
50  
51  
52  
53  
54  
55  
56  
57  
58  
59  
60  
61  
62  
63  
64  
65  
66  
67  
68  
69  
70  
71  
72  
73  
74  
75  
76  
77  
78  
79  
80  
81  
82  
83  
84  
85  
86  
87  
88  
89  
90  
91  
92  
93  
94  
95  
96  
97  
98  
99  
100  
101  
102  
103  
104  
105  
106  
107  
108  
109  
110  
111  
112  
113  
114  
115  
116  
117  
118  
119  
120  
121  
122  
123  
124  
125  
126  
127  
128  
129  
130  
131  
132  
133  
134  
135  
136  
137  
138  
139  
140  
141  
142  
143  
144  
145  
146  
147  
148  
149  
150  
151  
152  
153  
154  
155  
156  
157  
158  
159  
160  
161  
162  
163  
164  
165  
166  
167  
168  
169  
170  
171  
172  
173  
174  
175  
176  
177  
178  
179  
180  
181  
182  
183  
184  
185  
186  
187  
188  
189  
190  
191  
192  
193  
194  
195  
196  
197  
198  
199  
200  
201  
202  
203  
204  
205  
206  
207  
208  
209  
210  
211  
212  
213  
214  
215  
216  
217  
218  
219  
220  
221  
222  
223  
224  
225  
226  
227  
228  
229  
230  
231  
232  
233  
234  
235  
236  
237  
238  
239  
240  
241  
242  
243  
244  
245  
246  
247  
248  
249  
250  
251  
252  
253  
254  
255  
256  
257  
258  
259  
260  
261  
262  
263  
264  
265  
266  
267  
268  
269  
270  
271  
272  
273  
274  
275  
276  
277  
278  
279  
280  
281  
282  
283  
284  
285  
286  
287  
288  
289  
290  
291  
292  
293  
294  
295  
296  
297  
298  
299  
300  
301  
302  
303  
304  
305  
306  
307  
308  
309  
310  
311  
312  
313  
314  
315  
316  
317  
318  
319  
320  
321  
322  
323  
324  
325  
326  
327  
328  
329  
330  
331  
332  
333  
334  
335  
336  
337  
338  
339  
340  
341  
342  
343  
344  
345  
346  
347  
348  
349  
350  
351  
352  
353  
354  
355  
356  
357  
358  
359  
360  
361  
362  
363  
364  
365  
366  
367  
368  
369  
370  
371  
372  
373  
374  
375  
376  
377  
378  
379  
380  
381  
382  
383  
384  
385  
386  
387  
388  
389  
390  
391  
392  
393  
394  
395  
396  
397  
398  
399  
400  
401  
402  
403  
404  
405  
406  
407  
408  
409  
410  
411  
412  
413  
414  
415  
416  
417  
418  
419  
420  
421  
422  
423  
424  
425  
426  
427  
428  
429  
430  
431  
432  
433  
434  
435  
436  
437  
438  
439  
440  
441  
442  
443  
444  
445  
446  
447  
448  
449  
450  
451  
452  
453  
454  
455  
456  
457  
458  
459  
460  
461  
462  
463  
464  
465  
466  
467  
468  
469  
470  
471  
472  
473  
474  
475  
476  
477  
478  
479  
480  
481  
482  
483  
484  
485  
486  
487  
488  
489  
490  
491  
492  
493  
494  
495  
496  
497  
498  
499  
500  
501  
502  
503  
504  
505  
506  
507  
508  
509  
510  
511  
512  
513  
514  
515  
516  
517  
518  
519  
520  
521  
522  
523  
524  
525  
526  
527  
528  
529  
530  
531  
532  
533  
534  
535  
536  
537  
538  
539  
540  
541  
542  
543  
544  
545  
546  
547  
548  
549  
550  
551  
552  
553  
554  
555  
556  
557  
558  
559  
560  
561  
562  
563  
564  
565  
566  
567  
568  
569  
570  
571  
572  
573  
574  
575  
576  
577  
578  
579  
580  
581  
582  
583  
584  
585  
586  
587  
588  
589  
590  
591  
592  
593  
594  
595  
596  
597  
598  
599  
600  
601  
602  
603  
604  
605  
606  
607  
608  
609  
610  
611  
612  
613  
614  
615  
616  
617  
618  
619  
620  
621  
622  
623  
624  
625  
626  
627  
628  
629  
630  
631  
632  
633  
634  
635  
636  
637  
638  
639  
640  
641  
642  
643  
644  
645  
646  
647  
648  
649  
650  
651  
652  
653  
654  
655  
656  
657  
658  
659  
660  
661  
662  
663  
664  
665  
666  
667  
668  
669  
670  
671  
672  
673  
674  
675  
676  
677  
678  
679  
680  
681  
682  
683  
684  
685  
686  
687  
688  
689  
690  
691  
692  
693  
694  
695  
696  
697  
698  
699  
700  
701  
702  
703  
704  
705  
706  
707  
708  
709  
710  
711  
712  
713  
714  
715  
716  
717  
718  
719  
720  
721  
722  
723  
724  
725  
726  
727  
728  
729  
730  
731  
732  
733  
734  
735  
736  
737  
738  
739  
740  
741  
742  
743  
744  
745  
746  
747  
748  
749  
750  
751  
752  
753  
754  
755  
756  
757  
758  
759  
760  
761  
762  
763  
764  
765  
766  
767  
768  
769  
770  
771  
772  
773  
774  
775  
776  
777  
778  
779  
780  
781  
782  
783  
784  
785  
786  
787  
788  
789  
790  
791  
792  
793  
794  
795  
796  
797  
798  
799  
800  
801  
802  
803  
804  
805  
806  
807  
808  
809  
810  
811  
812  
813  
814  
815  
816  
817  
818  
819  
820  
821  
822  
823  
824  
825  
826  
827  
828  
829  
830  
831  
832  
833  
834  
835  
836  
837  
838  
839  
840  
841  
842  
843  
844  
845  
846  
847  
848  
849  
850  
851  
852  
853  
854  
855  
856  
857  
858  
859  
860  
861  
862  
863  
864  
865  
866  
867  
868  
869  
870  
871  
872  
873  
874  
875  
876  
877  
878  
879  
880  
881  
882  
883  
884  
885  
886  
887  
888  
889  
890  
891  
892  
893  
894  
895  
896  
897  
898  
899  
900  
901  
902  
903  
904  
905  
906  
907  
908  
909  
910  
911  
912  
913  
914  
915  
916  
917  
918  
919  
920  
921  
922  
923  
924  
925  
926  
927  
928  
929  
930  
931  
932  
933  
934  
935  
936  
937  
938  
939  
940  
941  
942  
943  
944  
945  
946  
947  
948  
949  
950  
951  
952  
953  
954  
955  
956  
957  
958  
959  
960  
961  
962  
963  
964  
965  
966  
967  
968  
969  
970  
971  
972  
973  
974  
975  
976  
977  
978  
979  
980  
981  
982  
983  
984  
985  
986  
987  
988  
989  
990  
991  
992  
993  
994  
995  
996  
997  
998  
999  
1000  
1001  
1002  
1003  
1004  
1005  
1006  
1007  
1008  
1009  
1010  
1011  
1012  
1013  
1014  
1015  
1016  
1017  
1018  
1019  
1020  
1021  
1022  
1023  
1024  
1025  
1026  
1027  
1028  
1029  
1030  
1031  
1032  
1033  
1034  
1035  
1036  
1037  
1038  
1039  
1040  
1041  
1042  
1043  
1044  
1045  
1046  
1047  
1048  
1049  
1050  
1051  
1052  
1053  
1054  
1055  
1056  
1057  
1058  
1059  
1060  
1061  
1062  
1063  
1064  
1065  
1066  
1067  
1068  
1069  
1070  
1071  
1072  
1073  
1074  
1075  
1076  
1077  
1078  
1079  
1080  
1081  
1082  
1083  
1084  
1085  
1086  
1087  
1088  
1089  
1090  
1091  
1092  
1093  
1094  
1095  
1096  
1097  
1098  
1099  
1100  
1101  
1102  
1103  
1104  
1105  
1106  
1107  
1108  
1109  
1110  
1111  
1112  
1113  
1114  
1115  
1116  
1117  
1118  
1119  
1120  
1121  
1122  
1123  
1124  
1125  
1126  
1127  
1128  
1129  
1130  
1131  
1132  
1133  
1134  
1135  
1136  
1137  
1138  
1139  
1140  
1141  
1142  
1143  
1144  
1145  
1146  
1147  
1148  
1149  
1150  
1151  
1152  
1153  
1154  
1155  
1156  
1157  
1158  
1159  
1160  
1161  
1162  
1163  
1164  
1165  
1166  
1167  
1168  
1169  
1170  
1171  
1172  
1173  
1174  
1175  
1176  
1177  
1178  
1179  
1180  
1181  
1182  
1183  
1184  
1185  
1186  
1187  
1188  
1189  
1190  
1191  
1192  
1193  
1194  
1195  
1196  
1197  
1198  
1199  
1200  
1201  
1202  
1203  
1204  
1205  
1206  
1207  
1208  
1209  
1210  
1211  
1212  
1213  
1214  
1215  
1216  
1217  
1218  
1219  
1220  
1221  
1222  
1223  
1224  
1225  
1226  
1227  
1228  
1229  
1230  
1231  
1232  
1233  
1234  
1235  
1236  
1237  
1238  
1239  
1240  
1241  
1242  
1243  
1244  
1245  
1246  
1247  
1248  
1249  
1250  
1251  
1252  
1253  
1254  
1255  
1256  
1257  
1258  
1259  
1260  
1261  
1262  
1263  
1264  
1265  
1266  
1267  
1268  
1269  
1270  
1271  
1272  
1273  
1274  
1275  
1276  
1277  
1278  
1279  
1280  
1281  
1282  
1283  
1284  
1285  
1286  
1287  
1288  
1289  
1290  
1291  
1292  
1293  
1294  
1295  
1296  
1297  
1298  
1299  
1300  
1301  
1302  
1303  
1304  
1305  
1306  
1307  
1308  
1309  
1310  
1311  
1312  
1313  
1314  
1315  
1316  
1317  
1318  
1319  
1320  
1321  
1322  
1323  
1324  
1325  
1326  
1327  
1328  
1329  
1330  
1331  
1332  
1333  
1334  
1335  
1336  
1337  
1338  
1339  
1340  
1341  
1342  
1343  
1344  
1345  
1346  
1347  
1348  
1349  
1350  
1351  
1352  
1353  
1354  
1355  
1356  
1357  
1358  
1359  
1360  
1361  
1362  
1363  
1364  
1365  
1366  
1367  
1368  
1369  
1370  
1371  
1372  
1373  
1374  
1375  
1376  
1377  
1378  
1379  
1380  
1381  
1382  
1383  
1384  
1385  
1386  
1387  
1388  
1389  
1390  
1391  
1392  
1393  
1394  
1395  
1396  
1397  
1398  
1399  
1400  
1401  
1402  
1403  
1404  
1405  
1406  
1407  
1408  
1409  
1410  
1411  
1412  
1413  
1414  
1415  
1416  
1417  
1418  
1419  
1420  
1421  
1422  
1423  
1424  
1425  
1426  
1427  
1428  
1429  
1430  
1431  
1432  
1433  
1434  
1435  
1436  
1437  
1438  
1439  
1440  
1441  
1442  
1443  
1444  
1445  
1446  
1447  
1448  
1449  
1450  
1451  
1452  
1453  
1454  
1455  
1456  
1457  
1458  
1459  
1460  
1461  
1462  
1463  
1464  
1465  
1466  
1467  
1468  
1469  
1470  
1471  
1472  
1473  
1474  
1475  
1476  
1477  
1478  
1479  
1480  
1481  
1482  
1483  
1484  
1485  
1486  
1487  
1488  
1489  
1490  
1491  
1492  
1493  
1494  
1495  
1496  
1497  
1498  
1499  
1500  
1501  
1502  
1503  
1504  
1505  
1506  
1507  
1508  
1509  
1510  
1511  
1512  
1513  
1514  
1515  
1516  
1517  
1518  
1519  
1520  
1521  
1522  
1523  
1524  
1525  
1526  
1527  
1528  
1529  
1530  
1531  
1532  
1533  
1534  
1535  
1536  
1537  
1538  
1539  
1540  
1541  
1542  
1543  
1544  
1545  
1546  
1547  
1548  
1549  
1550  
1551  
1552  
1553  
1554  
1555  
1556  
1557  
1558  
1559  
1560  
1561  
1562  
1563  
1564  
1565  
1566  
1567  
1568  
1569  
1570  
1571  
1572  
1573  
1574  
1575  
1576  
1577  
1578  
1579  
1580  
1581  
1582  
1583  
1584  
1585  
1586  
1587  
1588  
1589  
1590  
1591  
1592  
1593  
1594  
1595  
1596  
1597  
1598  
1599  
1600  
1601  
1602  
1603  
1604  
1605  
1606  
1607  
1608  
1609  
1610  
1611  
1612  
1613  
1614  
1615  
1616  
1617  
1618  
1619  
1620  
1621  
1622  
1623  
1624  
1625  
1626  
1627  
1628  
1629  
1630  
1631  
1632  
1633  
1634  
1635  
1636  
1637  
1638  
1639  
1640  
1641  
1642  
1643  
1644  
1645  
1646  
1647  
1648  
1649  
1650  
1651  
1652  
1653  
1654  
1655  
1656  
1657  
1658  
1659  
1660  
1661  
1662  
1663  
1664  
1665  
1666  
1667  
1668  
1669  
1670  
1671  
1672  
1673  
1674  
1675  
1676  
1677  
1678  
1679  
1680  
1681  
1682  
1683  
1684  
1685  
1686  
1687  
1688  
1689  
1690  
1691  
1692  
1693  
1694  
1695  
1696  
1697  
1698  
1699  
1700  
1701  
1702  
1703  
1704  
1705  
1706  
1707  
1708  
1709  
1710  
1711  
1712  
1713  
1714  
1715  
1716  
1717  
1718  
1719  
1720  
1721  
1722  
1723  
1724  
1725  
1726  
1727  
1728  
1729  
1730  
1731  
1732  
1733  
1734  
1735  
1736  
1737  
1738  
1739  
1740  
1741  
1742  
1743  
1744  
1745  
1746  
1747  
1748  
1749  
1750  
1751  
1752  
1753  
1754  
1755  
1756  
1757  
1758  
1759  
1760  
1761  
1762  
1763  
1764  
1765  
1766  
1767  
1768  
1769  
1770  
1771  
1772  
1773  
1774  
1775  
1776  
1777  
1778  
1779  
1780  
1781  
1782  
1783  
1784  
1785  
1786  
1787  
1788  
1789  
1790  
1791  
1792  
1793  
1794  
1795  
1796  
1797  
1798  
1799  
1800  
1801  
1802  
1803  
1804  
1805  
1806  
1807  
1808  
1809  
1810  
1811  
1812  
1813  
1814  
1815  
1816  
1817  
1818  
1819  
1820  
1821  
1822  
1823  
1824  
1825  
1826  
1827  
1828  
1829  
1830  
1831  
1832  
1833  
1834  
1835  
1836  
1837  
1838  
1839  
1840  
1841  
1842  
1843  
1844  
1845  
1846  
1847  
1848  
1849  
1850  
1851  
1852  
1853  
1854  
1855  
1856  
1857  
1858  
1859  
1860  
1861  
1862  
1863  
1864  
1865  
1866  
1867  
1868  
1869  
1870  
1871  
1872  
1873  
1874  
1875  
1876  
1877  
1878  
1879  
1880  
1881  
1882  
1883  
1884  
1885  
1886  
1887  
1888  
1889  
1890  
1891  
1892  
1893  
1894  
1895  
1896  
1897  
1898  
1899  
1900  
1901  
1902  
1903  
1904  
1905  
1906  
1907  
1908  
1909  
1910  
1911  
1912  
1913  
1914  
1915  
1916  
1917  
1918  
1919  
1920  
1921  
1922  
1923  
1924  
1925  
1926  
1927  
1928  
1929  
1930  
1931  
1932  
1933  
1934  
1935  
1936  
1937  
1938  
1939  
1940  
1941  
1942  
1943  
1944  
1945  
1946  
1947  
1948  
1949  
1950  
1951  
1952  
1953  
1954  
1955  
1956  
1957  
1958  
1959  
1960  
1961  
1962  
1963  
1964  
1965  
1966  
1967  
1968  
1969  
1970  
1971  
1972  
1973  
1974  
1975  
1976  
1977  
1978  
1979  
1980  
1981  
1982  
1983  
1984  
1985  
1986  
1987  
1988  
1989  
1990  
1991  
1992  
1993  
1994  
1995  
1996  
1997  
1998  
1999  
2000  
2001  
2002  
2003  
2004  
2005  
2006  
2007  
2008  
2009  
2010  
2011  
2012  
2013  
2014  
2015  
2016  
2017  
2018  
2019  
2020  
2021  
2022  
2023  
2024  
2025  
2026  
2027  
2028  
2029  
2030  
2031  
2032  
2033  
2034  
2035  
2036  
2037  
2038  
2039  
2040  
2041  
2042  
2043  
2044  
2045  
2046  
2047  
2048  
2049  
2050  
2051  
2052  
2053  
2054  
2055  
2056  
2057  
2058  
2059  
2060  
2061  
2062  
2063  
2064  
2065  
2066  
2067  
2068  
2069  
2070  
2071  
2072  
2073  
2074  
2075  
2076  
2077  
2078  
2079  
2080  
2081  
2082  
2083  
2084  
2085  
2086  
2087  
2088  
2089  
2090  
2091  
2092  
2093  
2094  
2095  
2096  
2097  
2098  
2099  
2100  
2101  
2102  
2103  
2104  
2105  
2106  
2107  
2108  
2109  
2110  
2111  
2112  
2113  
2114  
2115  
2116  
2117  
2118  
2119  
2120  
2121  
2122  
2123  
2124  
2125  
2126  
2127  
2128  
2129  
2130  
2131  
2132  
2133  
2134  
2135  
2136  
2137  
2138  
2139  
2140  
2141  
2142  
2143  
2144  
2145  
2146  
2147  
2148  
2149  
2150  
2151  
2152  
2153  
2154  
2155  
2156  
2157  
2158  
2159  
2160  
2161  
2162  
2163  
2164  
2165  
2166  
2167  
2168  
2169  
2170  
2171  
2172  
2173  
2174  
2175  
2176  
2177  
2178  
2179  
2180  
2181  
2182  
2183  
2184  
2185  
2186  
2187  
2188  
2189  
2190  
2191  
2192  
2193  
2194  
2195  
2196  
2197  
2198  
2199  
2200  
2201  
2202  
2203

```

module makeQ(q, q_1HH, q_1H, q_2HH, q_2H, q_3HH, q_3H,
q_3LL);
    input [5:0] q;
    output [3:0] q_1HH;
    output [3:0] q_1H;
    output [3:0] q_2HH;
    output [2:0] q_2H;
    output [2:0] q_3HH;
    output [2:0] q_3H;
    output [2:0] q_3LL;

    wire [3:0] temp_2H;
    wire [3:0] temp_3HH;
    wire [3:0] temp_3H;
    wire [3:0] temp_3LL;
    wire [2:0] qlo;
    wire [2:0] qhi;

    assign qlo = q[2:0];
    assign qhi = q[5:3];

    assign q_1HH    = qhi + ((qlo >= 2) ? 1 : 0);
    assign q_1H     = qhi + ((qlo >= 4) ? 1 : 0);
    assign q_2HH    = qhi + ((qlo >= 6) ? 1 : 0);
    assign temp_2H  = qhi + ((qlo >= 1) ? 0 : -1);
    assign temp_3HH = qhi + ((qlo >= 3) ? 0 : -1);
    assign temp_3H  = qhi + ((qlo >= 5) ? 0 : -1);
    assign temp_3LL = qhi - 1;

    assign q_2H    = (temp_2H < 0) ? 0 : temp_2H;
    assign q_3HH   = (temp_3HH < 0) ? 0 : temp_3HH;
    assign q_3H    = (temp_3H < 0) ? 0 : temp_3H;
    assign q_3LL   = (temp_3LL < 0) ? 0 : temp_3LL;

endmodule

```

Table 9 shows additional bitplanes to quantize (e.g., truncate) for luminance to take advantage of the frequency response of the Human Visual System (from Table J-2 of the JPEG 2000 standard). A viewing distance of 1000 pixels might be appropriate for viewing images on a computer monitor.

- 5 Larger viewing distances might be appropriate for print images or television.

Table 9 - Human Visual System Weighting for Luminance

subband	extra biplanes to quantize for viewing distance of ...		
	1000 pixels	2000 pixels	4000 pixels
1HH	2	4 or 5	discard all
1HL, 1LH	1	2 or 3	6
2HH	—	2	4 or 5
2HL, 2LH	—	1	2 or 3
3HH	—	—	2
3HL, 3LH	—	—	1

- 10 Additionally chrominance may be quantized more heavily than luminance.

Figure 19 shows a quantization that starts with Figure 17(D) and then adds frequency weighting for a 1000 pixel viewing distance (to both luminance and chrominance), keeps 3LL chrominance unchanged, discards 1HL and 1HH chrominance for 4:2:2 and additional 2 bitplanes are

- 15 discarded for the remaining chrominance.

Sharp text without ringing artifacts is more desirable than exact gray value for text/background. That is, if a gray level is supposed to be at 50%

(for example), and is instead at 60%, it is often not visually objectionable if the image is of text. In one embodiment, the LL (DC) coefficients are quantized more heavily for text than for non-text images at low bitrate. For example, for an 8-bit image component, a quantization step size of 8, 16 or 32 might be used for text only regions and a quantization step size of 1, 2 or 4 might be used for regions containing non-text. This allows more fidelity for the high frequency coefficients, thereby resulting in text with sharp edges.

#### *Using Quantizers to Divide Things into Layers*

Table 10 shows 16 example quantizers. Quantizer 15 is lossless. Quantizer 8 is the same as Figure 19. These can be used divide the subband bitplanes into layers.



Table 10

subband	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Y 1HH	all	all	6	6	5	5	4	4	3	3	2	2	1	1	0	0
Y 1HL,LH	6	5	5	4	4	3	3	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Y 2HH	5	4	4	3	3	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Y 2HL,LH	4	4	3	3	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Y 3HH	4	4	3	3	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Y 3HL,LH	4	3	3	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Y 3LL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
C <sub>1</sub> 1HL,HH	HL and HH always discarded for 4:1:1 or 4:2:2 only															
C <sub>1</sub> 1LH	all	all	all	all	6	6	5	5	4	4	3	3	2	2	1	0
C <sub>1</sub> 2HH	all	6	6	5	5	4	4	3	3	2	2	1	1	0	0	0
C <sub>1</sub> 2HL,LH	all	6	5	5	4	4	3	3	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0
C <sub>1</sub> 3HH	all	6	5	5	4	4	3	3	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0
C <sub>1</sub> 3HL,LH	all	5	5	4	4	3	3	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
C <sub>1</sub> 3LL	all	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
C <sub>2</sub> 1HL,HH	HL and HH always discarded for 4:1:1 or 4:2:2 only															
C <sub>2</sub> 1LH	all	all	all	all	6	6	5	5	4	4	3	3	2	2	1	0
C <sub>2</sub> 2HH	all	6	6	5	5	4	4	3	3	2	2	1	1	0	0	0
C <sub>2</sub> 2HL,LH	all	6	5	5	4	4	3	3	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0
C <sub>2</sub> 3HH	all	6	5	5	4	4	3	3	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0
C <sub>2</sub> 3HL,LH	all	5	5	4	4	3	3	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
C <sub>2</sub> 3LL	all	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Layer 0 contains all data not quantized away by quantizer 0. This

would be luminance data only: all of 3LL; all but 4 bitplanes of 2HL, 2LH,

5 3HL, 3LH and 3HH; all but 5 bitplanes of 2HH and all but 6 bitplanes of 1HL

and 1LH. Layer 1 contains all data not in layer 0 and not quantized away by

quantizer 1. This would be luminance bitplanes 5 for 1HL and 1LH, bitplane

4 for 2 HH, bitplane 3 for 3HL and 3LH; all 3LL chrominance; all but 5

bitplanes for chrominance 3HL and 3LH; and all but 6 bitplanes for

10 chrominance 2HL, 2LH and 3HH. Finally, layer 15 would contain the LSB of

1LH chrominance.

### *Rate Control with Multiple Layers and Tile-Parts*

There several well known techniques for rate control in compression systems. The simplest method is to pick a distortion for every "unit" compressed (a unit may be an 8x8 block in JPEG, a frame in a motion sequence, a tile of a single image, a subband of a tile in a wavelet coded image, etc.). If the distortion selected leads to a bitrate higher than the desired average bitrate, the distortion allowed is increased for new units as they are compressed. If the distortion selected leads to a bit rate lower than the desired average bitrate, the distortion allowed is decreased for new units as they are compressed.

A more complex method buffers the compressed data from some number of "units." The bitrate and/or distortion for each unit at each distortion level is stored. Then the distortion to allow across all the units in the buffer is determined when the buffer is full. If the buffer is sufficient to contain the entire image, extremely high quality results can be obtained. In JPEG 2000, layers are designed to contain increments to quality. Thus, selecting a distortion can mean selecting the number of layers to use for each code block or tile. A complete description of this type of rate control is in,

David Taubman, "High Performance Scalable Image Compression with EBCOT," IEEE Transactions on Image Processing.

There are several disadvantages to this process. One disadvantage is that a buffer memory for the entire codestream is required. A second  
5 disadvantage is that the latency (time until any of the codestream is output) is high. A third disadvantage is that the second pass could take large amount of time.

To mitigate these problems, each tile of a JPEG 2000 codestream is encoded as described above with at least two layers. At the completion of  
10 encoding each tile, a number of packets (e.g., layer, resolution, precinct, tile-component) are output to the codestream as a complete tile-part. The remaining layers are stored in the buffer. A second pass through the remaining coded data in the buffer is optional. During this second pass, extra packets from each tile are appended to the codestream as complete tile-  
15 parts as space or time allows. If in a fixed-rate application, then only packets within the given rate are appended. If in a fixed time application, then only number of cycles allowed. One embodiment of this process is shown in Figure 15A. Thus, these can be the 2 complete tile-parts output for each tile.

Figure 15B illustrates a number of layers, layers 1-n. Layer 1 is output on the first pass, and the remaining layers are most likely below fixed-time or fixed-rate time limits. Layer 2 may be output on a second pass within fixed-time or fixed-rate requirements while achieving similar distortion over  
 5 all the components.

The above process is advantageous in that it allows the buffer to store a fraction of the coded data, the first data can be output (transmitted or stored) sooner, and the second pass through the data can be faster because there is less data to process. Also less memory is required for buffering.

10 The criterion for selecting which packets go into the first set of tile-parts can be similar to any other rate control algorithm. In one embodiment, the rate of packets can be less than the desired average bitrate for the whole image. For example, if a final compressed bitstream at 2.0 bpp is desired, the first pass could place 1.5 bpp for every tile in the codestream, and buffer 1  
 15 bpp for every tile.

The second pass can select from the remaining data the packets to place in the second tile part of each tile. Thus, to obtain a 2.0 bpp average encoding, some tiles that had high distortion after the first pass could receive all the remaining data saved for the tile, while other tile parts which

had low distortion after the first pass might not have any additional data transmitted.

#### *Rate Control for Compressed Codestream Data*

- 5           Some rate control techniques described herein include rate control performed on a compressed codestream based on a request implemented by selecting some number of layers to keep in the codestream. A parser may be used to produce a new codestream which shows the bitrate based on layers. This bitrate is equal to or less than the bitrate specified by the request.
- 10           The parser may use a data structure referred to herein as a “packet structure.” Note that this data structure may be used for other purposes such as, for example, the versatile packet data structure described below. In one embodiment, the packet structure includes a packet start pointer and packet length. It also contains a tile number, a resolution, a component,
- 15           layer, and a precinct the packet belongs to. Finally, it also consists of a selection flag. This flag, when set to a predetermined value (e.g., 1), indicates if the packet is selected in the array for writing out to a new codestream.

In one embodiment, packets are read in sequential order from a codestream based on the progression order information indicated by the COD marker.

The number of bytes is computed based on the bitrate desired by the request. The number of bytes belonging to layer 0 is added up to a total. Then this total of bytes is compared with the number of bytes desired. If the total is less than the number of bytes desired, one additional layer is added to the total. The process continues until the total is equal to or greater than the number of bytes desired or all packets have been added.

During the process, those packets which have been added to the total, are marked as selected by the selection flag in the structure.

If the total is equal to the number of bytes desired, the addition process is stopped. If the total exceeds the number of bytes desired, the packets in the last layer added are subtracted from the total. This is done to guarantee that the bitrate is below the bitrate desired. Consequently, during the subtraction step, packets which have been subtracted from the total are marked unselected.

In one embodiment, the related markers such as SOT, COD, PLT are updated according to the request. Packets are written to the new codestream. The packet structure may be created using the following:

```

5  typedef struct _PACK_ {          /* packet structure */
    int      start;    /* packet starting point */
    int      length;   /* packet length */
    unsigned short t;   /* tile number the packet belongs to */
    unsigned short r;   /* resolution the packet belongs to */
10  unsigned short c;   /* component the packet belongs to */
    unsigned short l;   /* layer the packet belongs to */
    unsigned short p;   /* precinct the packet belongs to */
    unsigned char  select; /* selection flag */
    } Pack_t;
15

    /* Store packets from tp->tile[i].Size[j] array to the packet structure array
    */ /* Layer progression (LRCP) order */

20  if(progression_order == 0){
        j = 0;
        for(i=0;i<number_of_tile;i++){
            m = 0;
25  for(l=0;l<layer;l++){
                for(r=0;r<resolution+1;r++){
                    for(c=0;c<component;c++){
                        for(p=0;p<precinct[r];p++){

30  tp->pk[j].start = tp->tile[i].pointer[m];
                    tp->pk[j].length = tp->tile[i].Size[m];
                    total_length += tp->tile[i].Size[m];

                    tp->pk[j].t = i;
35  tp->pk[j].r = r;

```

```

        tp->pk[j].l = l;
        tp->pk[j].c = c;
        tp->pk[j].p = p;
        m++;
5      j++;
      }
    }
  }
10  num_packet[i] = m;
  }
}

```

#### *Versatile Packet Data Structure*

15       The same packet data structure described above can be used to facilitate other parsing options, once packets are read into the structure.

For resolution parsing, the packets which are to be excluded are marked unselected. For example, given a 4 resolution codestream, and a request is to produce a 3-resolution codestream, a parser marks all packets

20       which belong to resolution 4 unselected. Then the newly produced codestream contains only packets from resolution 1 up to resolution 3.

Similarly, for component parsing, progression conversion parsing, quality parsing can be performed step by step processing the packets in the structure.



The packet data structure can handle complex requests. For example, a request which requires the parser to produce a codestream which has a 3-resolution, 2-layer, and 1-component codestream.

## 5 Clipping After Each Inverse Transform

As a result of quantization performed on wavelet coefficients, the final decoded pixels are often outside of the original range of allowed pixels from the specified bit depth. Typically, these pixels are clipped to the original range so that further image processing or display devices can use the original bit depth.

For example, an eight bit image has pixel values between 0 and 255, inclusive. After lossy compression is used, the decoded image may contain values like -5 and 256. To provide an eight bit output, these values are clipped to 0 and 255 respectively. This clipping procedure always reduces pixel wise distortion because the original image did not contain pixels outside of the clipping bounds. This procedure is well known and recommend by the JPEG 2000 standard.

In addition to the bounds on the final output samples, there are bounds on the values coefficients can assume at the various stages of the

wavelet transform. Just as quantization can change the final decoded samples to lie outside the original bounds, quantization can change the partially transformed wavelet coefficients to lie outside their original bounds. If these coefficients are clipped to their original bounds, distortion

5 will decrease.

For example, after a horizontal (one dimensional) 5-3 reversible transform as specified by JPEG 2000 with 8 bit input samples, the maximum value of the low pass coefficient is +191, and the minimum possible value is -191. The high pass coefficient must be between -255 and 255 inclusive.

10 After the vertical one dimensional transform, the Low-Low coefficients are bounded by -286 and 287. Thus when decoding an eight bit image, when the first level low-low pass coefficients are generated (by the inverse wavelet transform from a higher level), the coefficients can be clipped to -286 and +287, and distortion will decrease. Likewise after the first level vertical

15 inverse transformation is done, the low pass coefficients can be clipped to -191, +191, and the high pass coefficients can be clipped to -255, 255.

For each subband, each filter, each transform level, and each image depth, there is a different maximum and minimum value for the coefficients. These maximum and minimum values can be computed by finding the

signal that leads to the maximum and minimum and running the forward compression system and recording the maxima. The signals that lead to extreme values come from inputs where each pixel is either a maximum or minimum. Which pixels should be maximum and which pixels should be minimum can be determined by convolving sequences which are -1 when the wavelet coefficient is negative and +1 when the wavelet coefficient is negative. For the 5-3 filter used in JPEG 2000 Part I, the low pass signal of interest is  $[-1 +1 +1 +1 -1]$  and the high pass signal is  $[-1 +1 -1]$ .

The signal (image) which will generate the largest LL value is:

10	+1 - 1 - 1 - 1 +1
	- 1 +1 +1 +1 - 1
	- 1 +1 +1 +1 - 1
	- 1 +1 +1 +1 - 1
	+1 - 1 - 1 - 1 +1

15 (where +1 must be replaced by the input maximum (e.g., 255) and -1 must be replaced by the input minimum (e.g., 0).

For irreversible filters, it is not necessary to actually run the system to determine the maxima, simply convolving the wavelet coefficients is sufficient. For the reversible 5-3 filter, however, the floor function is used in the computation of coefficients and is also used to determine the correct maxima.

Note that this may be used for other filters (e.g., a 9-7 filter).

Figure 28 is a flow diagram of one embodiment of a process for applying an inverse transform with clipping on partially transformed coefficients. The process is performed by processing logic, which may comprise hardware (e.g., circuitry, dedicated logic, etc.), software (such as  
5 that which runs on a general purpose computer system or a dedicated machine), or a combination of both.

Referring to Figure 28, processing logic applies a first level inverse transform to coefficients (processing block 2801). Thereafter, processing logic clips the partially transformed coefficients to a predetermined range  
10 (processing block 2802). Next, processing logic applies a first level inverse transform to the clipped coefficients (processing block 2803) and clips the partially transformed coefficients to a predetermined range (processing block 2804), which is different than the range in processing block 2802. Again, processing logic applies a first level inverse transform to clipped  
15 coefficients (processing block 2805) and clips the partially transformed coefficients to still another predetermined range (processing block 2806).

### **Simplified Colorspace Handling**

A typical decoding process including color management is shown in Figure 25. Referring to Figure 25, a file with a file format (e.g., a file format described in the JPEG 2000 standard) containing a restricted ICC profile is provided to a decoding device. Decompression block 2501 decompresses the file by taking the codestream portion of the file and performing context modeling, entropy decoding, and applying an inverse wavelet transform, but does not perform color space operations. If the codestream indicates the RCT or ICT component transform should be used to decode the codestream, these will be performed by block 2502. That is, inverse RCT/ICT block 2502 takes the components and the "RCT Y/N" indication (RCT if yes, ICT is no) and performs the specified inverse transform and provides (non-display) RGB pixels. (If specified by the syntax, inverse level shifting is also performed.)

Finally, the ICC color profile from the file format along with information about the display device will be used to produce the output pixels.

Inverse ICC block 2503 receives the (non-display) RGB pixels and the ICC profile and applies an inverse color space transform to provide display RGB pixels.

Figure 26 illustrates one embodiment of a non-preferred camera encoder. Referring to Figure 26, a camera generates YCrCb pixels. A converter 2602 converts the YCrCb pixels to RGB pixels and provides those two a typical JPEG 2000 encoder. The encoder comprises a RCT to ICT converter 2603 followed by a compressor 2604. The compressor generates an  $ICC_A$  for codestream.

Figure 27 illustrates one embodiment of a simpler camera encoder. That is, instead of including RCT/ICT converter 2603 and compressor 2604, a simple camera encoder includes only compressor block 2702. Referring to Figure 27, a camera 2701 generates YCrCb pixels and provides them to compressor 2702. Compressor comprises a JPEG 2000 encoder without an RCT conversion and generates an  $ICC_B$  codestream with RCT equaling 1 (with syntax signaling that the inverse RCT should be used on decoding). The relationship between  $ICC_B$  and  $ICC_A$  is given by the following equation:

$$ICC_B = ICC_A \circ YCrCb^{-1} \circ RCT$$

where  $\circ$  represents function composition.

Restricted ICC profiles are “syntaxes” for functions on pixels. A camera will typically write the same profile for all images, so  $ICC_b$  is computed offline, and copied into each output file. In a prior art system there must be HW for  $YCrCb^{-1}$  and RCT/ICT which operates on every pixel.

5

### **Coding 4:2:2 and 4:1:1 Data as 4:4:4 Data with Quantization**

The JPEG 2000 standard is typically used to handling data in a 4:4:4 format. It is not capable of describing how to reconstruct data in 4:1:1 or 4:2:2 formats in a 4:4:4 format for output. In one embodiment, when

10 encoding 4:1:1 data, the encoder treats 1 HL, 1 LH and 1 HH coefficients as zero. When encoding 4:2:2 data, the encoder treats 1 HL and 1 HH coefficients as zero. Thus, with all information in the extra subbands quantized to zero, a decoder is able to receive the codestream in a way it expects. In other words, the encoded data resembles 4:4:4 data that has been

15 heavily quantized.

### **File Order for Thumbnail, Monitor, Printer, and Full Resolution and Quality**

20 Multiple images at multiple resolutions are important in many image processing situations. Depending on the application, a user may want to

select different images of different resolutions. For example, thumbnail images may be used as an index into a large number of images. Also, a screen resolution image may be the image used to send to a monitor for display thereon. A print resolution image may be of lower quality for printer applications.

In one embodiment, a codestream of an image is organized into sections so that different versions of the image, such as, for example, a thumbnail version, a screen version, a print version and a lossless version, is progressive by quality.

In one embodiment, the packets are arranged such that certain packets correspond to particular resolutions such as a thumbnail. The combination of these packets with other packets represents the monitor resolution image, which when combined with other packets may represent the printer version, etc. Using the POC and tile parts, portions of a codestream may be grouped together. For example, all the tiles of the thumbnail size may be grouped together followed by tiles for another resolution followed by tiles of another resolution, etc. Figure 21 illustrates an example progression with tile parts for a single server. Each tile's thumbnail is grouped in tile-parts at the beginning of a file. Figure 21A



illustrates that tile-part 2101 is the only portion that is used for a thumbnail image. Figure 21B illustrates that for a monitor resolution, tile-parts 2102-2104 have been included with tile-part 2101. Figure 21C illustrates that for a printer resolution, tile-parts 2105 and 2106 have been included with tile-  
5 parts 2101-2104. Lastly, Figure 21D illustrates that for a lossless version of the data, the remaining three tile-parts 2107-2108 are included with the rest of the tile-parts. These sets of tile parts may be placed on a server in this progressive order.

One embodiment of the process for accessing the groupings of tile  
10 parts is shown in Figure 16. The process may be performed by processing logic that may comprise hardware (e.g., dedicated logic, circuitry, etc.), software (such as is run on a general purpose computer system or a dedicated machine), or a combination of both. The following steps assume that the image has been transformed with sufficient resolution levels and  
15 layers to divide the image into the four sizes.

Referring to Figure 16, processing logic initially determines the correct resolution and layering for the thumbnail (processing block 1601). In one embodiment, to determine the correct resolution and layering for the thumbnail, processing logic creates a POC constrained to that resolution and

layer for each tile and then creates a set of tile-parts and places this POC for each tile in the codestream.

Next, processing logic repeats processing block 1601 for the monitor resolution given that the thumbnail packets are already in the codestream (processing block 1602). Then, processing logic repeats processing block 1601 for the printer resolution given that the monitor packets are already in the codestream (processing block 1603).

Lastly, processing logic creates a POC marker with the extremes of the resolutions and layers for each tile (processing block 1604). In one embodiment, creating the POC with the extremes of the resolutions and layers is performed by creating a fourth set of tile-parts with the remaining tile-parts for a lossless version.

Note that the particular orders of the packets defined in the POCs are not of importance, only the limits.

15

### An Exemplary Computer System

Figure 20 is a block diagram of an exemplary computer system. Referring to Figure 20, computer system 2000 may comprise an exemplary client 150 or server 100 computer system. Computer system 2000 comprises

a communication mechanism or bus 2011 for communicating information, and a processor 2012 coupled with bus 2011 for processing information.

Processor 2012 includes a microprocessor, but is not limited to a microprocessor, such as, for example, Pentium™, PowerPC™, Alpha™, etc.

- 5           System 2000 further comprises a random access memory (RAM), or other dynamic storage device 2004 (referred to as main memory) coupled to bus 2011 for storing information and instructions to be executed by processor 2012. Main memory 2004 also may be used for storing temporary variables or other intermediate information during execution of instructions
- 10   by processor 2012.

- Computer system 2000 also comprises a read only memory (ROM) and/or other static storage device 2006 coupled to bus 2011 for storing static information and instructions for processor 2012, and a data storage device 2007, such as a magnetic disk or optical disk and its corresponding disk
- 15   drive. Data storage device 2007 is coupled to bus 2011 for storing information and instructions.

Computer system 2000 may further be coupled to a display device 2021, such as a cathode ray tube (CRT) or liquid crystal display (LCD), coupled to bus 2011 for displaying information to a computer user. An

alphanumeric input device 2022, including alphanumeric and other keys, may also be coupled to bus 2011 for communicating information and command selections to processor 2012. An additional user input device is cursor control 2023, such as a mouse, trackball, trackpad, stylus, or cursor  
5 direction keys, coupled to bus 2011 for communicating direction information and command selections to processor 2012, and for controlling cursor movement on display 2021.

Another device that may be coupled to bus 2011 is hard copy device 2024, which may be used for printing instructions, data, or other information  
10 on a medium such as paper, film, or similar types of media. Furthermore, a sound recording and playback device, such as a speaker and/or microphone may optionally be coupled to bus 2011 for audio interfacing with computer system 2000. Another device that may be coupled to bus 2011 is a  
wired/wireless communication capability 2025 to communication to a  
15 phone or handheld palm device.

Note that any or all of the components of system 2000 and associated hardware may be used in the present invention. However, it can be appreciated that other configurations of the computer system may include some or all of the devices.

Whereas many alterations and modifications of the present invention will no doubt become apparent to a person of ordinary skill in the art after having read the foregoing description, it is to be understood that any particular embodiment shown and described by way of illustration is in no way intended to be considered limiting. Therefore, references to details of various embodiments are not intended to limit the scope of the claims which in themselves recite only those features regarded as essential to the invention.

---